SOME

# MEMOIRS

OF THE

# LIFE

OF

*Lewis Maximilian Mahomet*, Gent.

Late Servant to his Majesty.

WITH

A true Copy of his, peculiarly remarkable, Last *Will* and *Testament*.

CONTAINING,

I. His *Confession* of *Faith*.

II. His Acknowledgment of ROYAL Favours.

III. The just Disposition of his Effects.

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Written by HIMSELF.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

SOME

# MEMOIRS

OF

## *Lewis Maximilian Mahomet*, Gent. Late Servant to his Majesty.

IT may be truly said, that, in the Death of this Gentleman, the King has, in every Respect, lost a *faithful Servant*, whether we consider him in his outward Abilities, or his internal Affection.

The chief Motives of this Attempt to do Justice to his Memory, is the

Friendſhip (tho' unknown) which I bear to the Family he has left behind him, and to wipe off thoſe mean, as well as baſe Reflections of the Populace, That a TURK ſhould be employed ſo near the *Throne*.

Tho' he was born a *Muſſulman*, he both lived and died an Honour to the *Chriſtian Religion*. The Chance of War firſt gave him the Knowledge of the true GOD, and he has been fighting his *Battles* ever ſince. It is to his Royal *Maſter* therefore, the great Inſtrument of *Divine Providence*, that he owes his *Salvation*; and the *Crown* of *Immortality* he now wears, is the aſſured Reward of his *Fidelity*, both to his Heavenly and Earthly Prince.

There is not any military Event, of the laſt Century, that has been looked upon more remarkable than the

the Siege the *Turks* laid to *Vienna*, in the Year 1683. At the raiſing of which, among the ſeveral Princes who commanded upon that Occaſion, none appeared more brave than the two eldeſt Electoral Princes of *Hanover**. Here, Mr. *Mahomet*, and two other of his Countrymen, became Part of the Trophies of their noble Arms, of whom more hereafter.

It was in the Year 1686, that the City of *Buda* (the Capital of the Kingdom of *Hungary)* was the laſt Time beſieged by the Imperialiſts, and taken by Storm. The *Turks* had forced the *Germans* at the Duke of *Lorrain*'s Attack twice to retire; but *they* being ſupported by the Duke's Preſence, who led them on himſelf,

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* GEORGE LEWIS, his *Britannick*-Majeſty; and his Brother, MAXIMILIAN.

to

to the Foot of the Breach, made a third Onſet, and entered the Town, with the Slaughter of eight hundred *Janizaries*, who defended the Breach on that Side; where, the Vizier-*Baſha* was himſelf, during the whole Action, giving incredible Proofs of his Bravery, and would not by any Means quit his Poſt, tho' he was wounded in the Right Arm; but taking his Sabre in his left Hand, continued to encourage his Men to the laſt, till he fell in among the Slain.

What made the Conqueſt of this important Place ſo very glorious to the *Imperialiſts*, was, its being obtained in the Sight of the whole *Turkiſh* Army, commanded by the *Grand-Vizier* in Perſon, who lay incamped within a Mile of *Buda*, and had poſſeſſed himſelf of an Hill, from whence he attempted to incommode the

the *Chriſtians* with his Cannon; but this being inſtantly perceived by the brave Prince LEWIS of *Baden* (one of the chief Commanding Officers upon this Occaſion) he oppoſed him; and the Vizier, ſo ſoon as News was brought him that the City was taken, ſet Fire to his Camp, and retired.

At this Siege it was, that Prince FREDERICK of *Hanover* behaved likewiſe with the Military-Glory peculiar to his illuſtrious Family.

As to Mr. *Mahomet*, or *Mehmet*, the Snbject of theſe Pages, all that I have been able to collect of the Particulars of his Life are, That he was born at the Caſtle of *Gauron*, in the *Morea*, of which Place his Father was Governour.

Soon after he became a Royal-Captive, as before related Directions were gi-

given for inſtructing him in the *Chriſtian Religion*, which, he with great Pleaſure received, and was in a ſhort Time baptized by the Names of *Lewis Maximilian Mehmet*, his Majeſty and his Brother ſtanding Godfathers.

He had a Siſter taken Priſoner at the ſame Time he was, as I have been told, and from whom he received a Letter out of *France*, about ſeven Years ago, but whether ſhe is now living, I know not; I rather believe ſhe is dead, becauſe there is no mention made by himſelf of Her.

He married a *Hanoverian* Gentlewoman, of a very good Family, with whom, he acknowledges, he had a conſiderable Portion.

He

He has three Children by her, now living, two Sons and a Daughter, among whom he has diſpoſed of his Effects in a Manner equally juſt and judicious.

The laſt Time he attended his Majeſty to *Germany*, he *ſet his Houſe in Order*, drew up his *Will* (hereunto annexed) all in his own Hand Writing, and publiſhed it in the *Chancery* of Juſtice at *Hanover*, the 14th Day of *December*, 1726.

He had for ſome Time been afflicted with a dropſical Indiſpoſition, for which he, laſt Summer, ſought the Relief of the *Bath* and *Briſtol* Waters, though in vain. Upon his return from thence it was adviſed he ſhould be Tapped, which was accordingly performed by Mr. *St. Andre*, who drew off from him between thirteen and fourteen Quarts of Water.

Two Days after the Operation, He died at the Royal Palace of *Kenſington* the 1*ſt* of *November* 1726. And on the 5th of the ſame Month, his Corps was depoſited in the Vault belonging to the *German*-Congregation in the *Savoy*. His Funeral Sermon being preached by the Reverend Mr. *Sigenhagen*.

So extenſive was the truly Chriſtian Virtue of *Charity* in him, that I have been aſſured, ſince his coming into *England*, he has paid the Debts, and releaſed out of Priſon, above three hundred Perſons who lay confined for *Petty* Sums.

Forty Years Attendance upon COURTS, thoſe Nurſeries of *Flattery* and *Deceit*, made not the leaſt Impreſſion upon Him. He deſired the Power of no other Acts than thoſe of *Beneficence* and *Humanity*, which upon every Occaſion he exerciſed in their

their full Degree. In Him, the *Diſtreſſed* never wanted a Friend, and the Man of *ill Principles* was ſure to meet his Reſentment. Never did he burden the Ear of his Royal Maſter with Complaints, nor ever preſume to ask a Favour, tho' with the moſt becoming and awful Diſtance, for himſelf, but to ſerve ſome Perſon he had a Friendſhip for, to whom the *Requeſt* was wholly unknown, till the *Bounty* could be conferred.

Thus, *void of Offence, towards God and towards Man,* was the whole Conduct of his Life; and, I may, with the ſame Juſtice, ſay of him, what Biſhop *Sprat* remarked of his dear Friend Mr. *Cowley*, " What " he wanted in Titles of Honour, " and the Gifts of Fortune, was " plentifully ſupplied by many other " Excellencies, which make perhaps, " leſs *Noiſe*, but are more beneficial for EXAMPLE.

BRITISH MUSEUM

A TRUE

# COPY

OF THE

## Last *Will* and *Teſtament*

OF

*Lewis Maximilian Mahomet*, Gent. Late Servant to his Majeſty.

*E Regiſtro Curiæ Prerogativæ Cant. Extract.*

IN the Name of the Bleſſed Holy Trinity. I *Ludewig Maximilian Mehmet*, having duely conſidered that the Terms of my Life

 are

are limited, but that the Hour of Death is concealed from me; I am therefore reſolved in my healthful Days, to make ſuch Diſpoſition, that hereafter I may depart this World joyfully as to my ſpiritual Concerns, and without Incumbrance with the Temporal.

*Imprimis*, And before all Things, I thank the Almighty GOD from the Bottom of my Soul, that by his particular Providence, and Guidance, I am brought from *Darkneſs* to the clear *Light* of the *Goſpel*; and by the Bath of the *Holy Baptiſm*, am incorporated with the *Chriſtian Church*, and conſequently, thro' Faith, am made Partaker to CHRIST JESUS my *Saviour*, his Redemption, and all obtained Graces; and beſeech the *Holy Trinity*, GOD the *Father*, *Son*, and *Holy Ghoſt*, to pardon, thro' Grace and Mercy, all wherein at any Time, during my Life, I have offended

offended againſt the Divine Majeſty. Furthermore, to ſtrengthen my Faith, and preſerve me until my End in the one profeſſed *Evangelick Truth*, as alſo, in the laſt Agony of *Death*, to ſend me his Comfort, Deliverance, and Help, in order to depart from hence in a bleſſed Manner, and to enjoy there the eternal Glory with all God's Elected.

My Body I commit to the Earth, from whence it came, and my God will in due Time preſent it to *Light* in a *clarified Manner*, for which Reaſon, the *Defunct Corps* is to be depoſited without any ſuperfluous Pomp, altho' after a Chriſtian Manner.

I cannot forget the Favours which in the firſt Place his *Royal Majeſty*, my moſt gracious Lord, and the whole *Royal Family*, have beſtowed upon me, without my Deſerts, from

my Youth hitherto; altho' I have during my Life made it my Endeavours to act in my Service with ſuch Diligence and Zeal, that I cannot reproach myſelf upon that Account; however, I know very well, and acknowledge, that thereby I could not merit thoſe Demonſtrations of Grace, wherewith his *Royal Majeſty*, and the reſt of the *Royal Family* continually have been pleaſed to honour me. I therefore wiſh that God on high, may richly reward them for thoſe Benefits which they have done to me, and if I dare beg for once more, and the laſt Time, then I moſt humbly recommend my Wife and Children to the continual Favour and Protection of his *Royal Majeſty*, and the *Royal Family*.

As to what relates to my temporal Eſtate, I appoint as my lawful and unqueſtionable Heirs, my three, at preſent, living Children

*viz.*

*viz.* *Sophia Caroline Mohr* born *Mehmet*, *Johann Ludewig Mehmet*, and *George Ludewig Mehmet*, and thoſe which God may happen farther to give me; alſo, in Caſe my Children, contrary to Expectation, ſhould die before me, then their Children, and Children's Children, which they ſhall leave behind them.

To my eldeſt Son *Johann Ludewig*, I have deſigned my Houſe, which I bought here, in *Hanover*, in *Smith-Street*, and to the End that the Support thereof ſhould not prove too heavy for him, therefore, I ſet the ſame, with the Moveables contained therein, *viz.* Tapeſtries, Beds, Chairs, Tables, Looking-Glaſſes, Pictures, &c. Finally, with all that belongs to a common Furniture of Rooms; at twelve thouſand Dollars*,

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*About three thouſand Pounds, the *Specie Dollar* being worth five Shillings.

for

for which Sum the reſt of my Heirs are to relinquiſh and leave him the ſame as his Property.

Beſides, I bequeath to him previouſly a Capital of five thouſand Dollars, in Hopes that he will employ and make Uſe of thoſe granted Advantages, after that Manner as his Family may thereby reap Honour and Profit.

My youngeſt Son *George Ludewig*, is likewiſe to have chiefly a Capital of five thouſand Dollars, and in Caſe it ſhould pleaſe God that I ſhould die during the Time of his Minority, then I recommend in the beſt Manner his due Education and Cultivation of that ſame Good-Nature which is perceived in him.

I thank my dear Wife *Maria Hedewig Mehmet*, born *Wede Kindt*, heartily for all the Matrimonial Fidelity,

delity, Love, and Care, which ſhe ſhewed to me and my Children. And whereas I never had any other Reaſon but to love her moſt heartily, and highly to reſpect her, and that I very well remember that ſhe not only brought me a conſiderable Portion, but alſo, that what thro' God's Bleſſings accrued to us, ſhe aſſiſted in the managing and augmenting of the ſame. Therefore, my Will is, that my ſaid dear Wife, as long as ſhe remains in the Station of a Widow, ſhall enjoy and uſe all my Eſtate, Real and Perſonal, as alſo Capitals, nothing excepted, without rendering any Account of it, during her Widowhood. Nevertheleſs, ſhe is to educate my *Sons* out of it, according to their Qualities, as alſo to take upon her the *Guardianſhip* of them, either ſingly, or with the Admiſſion of good Friends, whom ſhe ſhall find to be capable of it. But in caſe ſhe ſhould reſolve to enter

ter into a *Second-Marriage*, then ſhe takes back with her what ſhe brought, and beſides receives, as much of my Eſtate as ſhall fall to one of my Children then alive, which afterwards ſhe may diſpoſe of among her Children according to her Pleaſure.

After my Deceaſe, there is to be paid out to the Poor's Houſes between the *South* Gate of this City, five hundred Dollars Caſh, as a Legacy for the Maintenance of the poor Blue-Coat Children.

I admoniſh my Children Paternally, and ſeriouſly, to live in a good Harmony with one another; to honour their Mother, in a filial manner, and otherwiſe, to behave themſelves towards every Body, after that manner, as they may then expect God's farther Bleſſings, and the World's Approbation.

In

In Caſe this my *Diſpoſition* ſhould not be able to ſubſiſt as a *formal* and *ornamental Will*, for Want of ſome Solemnity; nevertheleſs, it ſhall be valued and eſteemed as a Codicil *Fidei Commiſs:*—Gift, or Paternal Dividend, among Children, or as an Order. And I reſerve hereby, to alter this my laſt *Will*, according to my Liking, to augment, and to diminiſh, or entirely to diſannul; and alſo, that what I may farther order by one or more Codicils, Paternal Memorandums, or otherwiſe, by a Writing under my Hand and Signature, ſhall be of the ſame Power and Effect as if it were herein contained in expreſs Words. In Witneſs whereof *I have writ all the above with my own Hand*, and ſubſcribed and confirmed the ſame with my Hand and Seal, and depoſited the ſame at the *Chancery of Juſtice*,

in this City, as a legal Teſtament. Thus done at *Hanover*, *December* the 14*th* 1725. --- *Ludewig Maximilian Mehmet*, L. S.

The above mentioned Teſtament, was on this Day, being the Date here under mentioned, in the Royal Council-Chamber opened and publiſhed in the Preſence of the Royal and Electoral Privy-Chamber-Secretary *Mohr*, and likewiſe in the Preſence of the Lord Chancellor *Stryck*, the Councellors of the Court, *Van Schrader Hattorff* and *Baring*, and after the Publication was made, a faithful Copy thereof was deſired by the aforeſaid Privy-Chambers-Secretary *Mohr*, which was granted him. Thus done at *Hanover*, the 9*th* of *January*, 1727. *in fidem*.--*Chr. Ulr. Blum*, Secretary of the Chancery. *In fidem Concordantis cum Originali Subſcripſi* —— *Chr. Ulr.*

*Ulr. Blum.* Secretary of the Chancery.

Viceſimo tertio Die Menſis *Januarii*, *Anno Domini*, Milleſſimo Septingenteſſimo Viceſſimo Sexto, Emanavit Commiſſio *Mariæ Hedewig Mehmet*, Viduæ Relictæ & Legatariæ uſu fruſtuariæ Nominatæ in Teſtamento *Ludewig Maximiliani Mehmet*, nuper Parochiæ Sancti *Jacobi*, *Weſtm.* in Comitatu *Middleſexiæ*, Generoſi defuncti habentis &c. Ad Adminiſtrandum bona jurat & credita Dicti defuncti, juxta Tenorem & Effectum Teſtamenti ipſius defuncti (eo quod in Dicto Teſtamento nullus Executor nominatus eſt, in Uſum & Beneficium *Sophiæ Carolinæ Mohr*, *Johann Ludewig Mehmet*, & *Georgii Ludewig Mehmet*, Liberorum naturalium & Legitimorum & Legatar. nominat. in Teſtamento Dicti defuncti, & durante vindicate ejuſdem *Mariæ Hedewig*

wig *Mehmet*, Relectæ de bene &c. jurat,

*Henr. Farrant*,
*Regiſtrar. Deputat.*

BRITISH MUSEUM

# POSTSCRIPT.

THE following VERSES upon the Monument juſt erected to the Memory of Secretary CRAGGS in *Weſtminſter* Abbey, might with much more Juſtice be applied to Mr. MEHMET (the *firſt*, and five *laſt* Words excepted) than to the *Perſon* the Poet has thus fulſomly flattered.

STATESMAN, yet *Friend* to Truth! in Soul ſincere,
In Action *faithful*, and in *Honour* clear!
Who *broke* no *Promiſe*; ſerv'd *no private End*;
Who *gain'd* no *Title*; and who *loſt* no *Friend*;
*Ennobled* by *Himſelf*, by ALL *approv'd*;
Prais'd, wept, and honour'd by the *Muſe* he *lov'd*.

A. POPE.

FINIS.